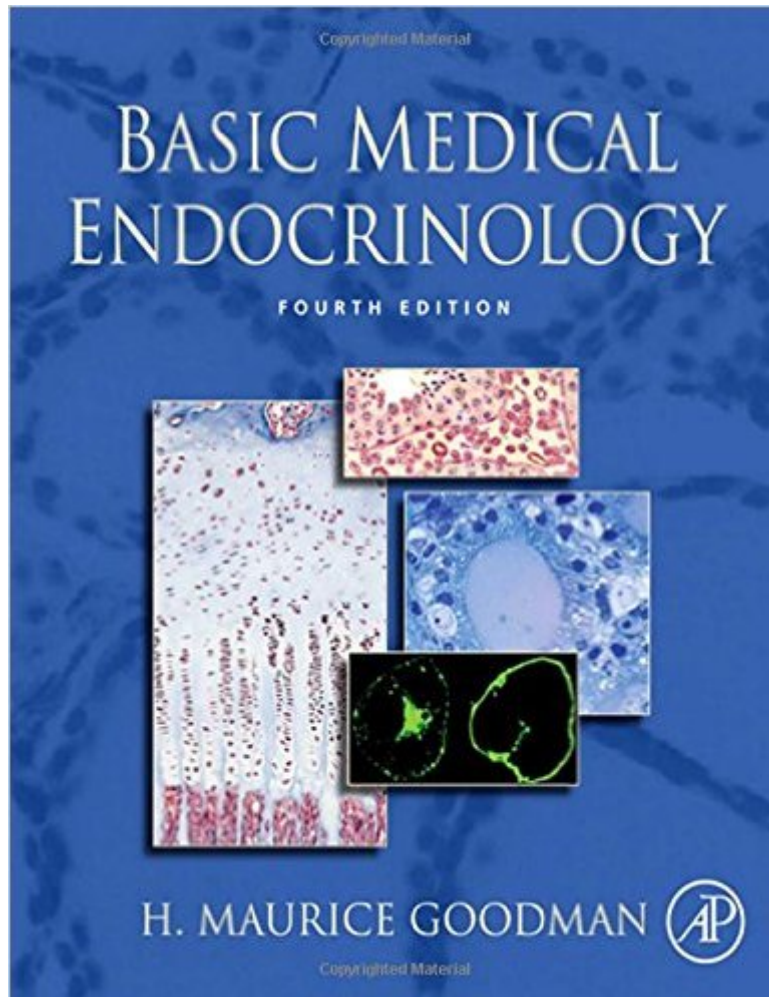


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Basic Medical Endocrinology, Fourth Edition



Synopsis

Basic Medical Endocrinology, 4e provides up-to-date coverage of rapidly unfolding advances in the understanding of hormones involved in regulating most aspects of bodily functions. Topics are approached from the perspective of a physiologist with over 40 years of teaching experience. This fourth edition is richly illustrated in full color with both descriptive schematic diagrams and laboratory findings obtained in clinical studies. Each of the fourteen chapters starts with an overview of the topic and ends with a Suggested Reading list. Initial chapters lay a foundation by presenting basic information and principles of hormone structure, secretion, and actions, and the physiological roles of the principal endocrine glands. Subsequent chapters address the role of the endocrine system in solving such physiological problems as the regulation of the volume and composition of body fluids in the face of changing environmental demands, and the regulation of short- and long-term energy balance. The final chapters deal with the indispensable role of hormones in growth, development and reproduction. * Strikes an excellent balance between systems/organismal level of overview and cellular/molecular analysis* Richly illustrated with over 250 full color figures, descriptive schematic diagrams, and laboratory findings* All chapters have been thoroughly rewritten and updated, including new discussions of adrenal steroid biosynthesis, the parathyroid in osteoporosis, obesity and metabolism, as well as an entirely new chapter on gastrointestinal hormones* Editor has 45 years of experience teaching endocrinology and physiology to medical students at Harvard and UMass

Book Information

Hardcover: 344 pages

Publisher: Academic Press; 4 edition (September 1, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0123739756

ISBN-13: 978-0123739759

Product Dimensions: 8.6 x 0.9 x 10.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (9 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #393,472 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #65 in [Books > Textbooks > Medicine & Health Sciences > Medicine > Clinical > Endocrinology](#) #210 in [Books > Medical Books > Medicine > Internal Medicine > Endocrinology & Metabolism](#)

Customer Reviews

This is a nice text for an undergraduate-level or graduate-level basic Endocrinology class. The book itself is very succinct, compact, and lightweight. Its content is trim and well-organized, and it's filled with colorful, easy-to-understand figures. The writing is lucid, fairly casual, and easy to understand, which I appreciated for a subject that is so dense with information. The book is not extremely in-depth. That's okay, though--it's self-described as a "basic" level book. It spares a student the more complicated explanations of many subjects for more advanced texts. For a student unfamiliar with endocrinology in general, this is a great book to introduce the major concepts of the field. I'll be keeping this book for reference in later years of school!

The text could have been more organized. There was a lot of "filler" words. At first, when you see the book, you feel that there's not much content in it because it is very light and skinny. When you start reading, however, you realize that the content is a little difficult to understand. Also, the text could have been more clearer. For instance, 3 pages talking about the CRH-ACTH-Cortisol pathway could have been simplified into: CRH stimulates ACTH. ACTH stimulates cortisol. Cortisol stimulates gluconeogenesis. etc. Now obviously, there are many actions that hormones do, and the book could have organized it more. Although there were tables and graphs in the book, it was lacking in simplicity and understandability. This book was used in my undergraduate endocrinology class and it did not help that much in my exams. I ended up having to wikipedia every hormone to get a direct, straightforward explanation on a specific hormone. For example, in wiki, all you do is type in say ACTH or cortisol and you get a direct explanation. In the book, I had to read a paragraph on the synthesis of ACTH, a paragraph on the stimulation of ACTH, a paragraph on the mechanism of ACTH, and a paragraph on the pathophysiology of hyper secretion of ACTH and other hormones, etc. It was great, but my reading time could have been cut in half had the book been a little more straightforward. It was like reading a lecture full of verbatim when all I needed to know was a simplified outline such as: "this causes this happen because of this, and if this malfunctions, then this happens..." In short, this book was okay. I learned from it but I must admit, I learned more from "googling" a specific hormone or "looking it up" on wikipedia. I hope you undergrads heed my warning when you read this review. Endocrinology is one my favorite subjects but this book simply needs to be rewritten to remove all the "fat" despite being such a thin book. Good luck to all.

The best book for learning Endocrinology. Very basic and understandable. Reading it would help you understand the tougher things and mechanisms involved. Even the mechanisms are a bit simplified to teach and understand.

Ok so the book reads ok, not the best piece of literature. What I disliked the most was that molecules are often illustrated wrong. Professors are supposed to read through the book and make sure these mistakes don't make it to the next edition. The frequency with which this occurs is annoying. Its the fourth edition and seems like I purchased the rough draft. Lets just say that who ever drew these structures would not pass an undergraduate organic chemistry course.

Very wordy and I haven't used it since reading the first chapter. I have heard all endocrinology books are terrible and this is the best. If that is so then forget the book and take notes in class

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